

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP: (FILL IN NUMBER)**

**32692**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

DUE DATE(S) _____

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Patent

Case No.: 51737US019

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****SEP 07 2004**

First Named Inventor: STEFELY, JAMES S.

Application No.: 10/078805

Group Art Unit: 1617

Filed: February 18, 2002

Examiner: Webman, Edward J.

Title: **BIOCOMPATIBLE COMPOUNDS FOR SUSTAINED RELEASE
PHARMACEUTICAL DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEMS****AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

September 23, 2003
DateAmber M. Haubrick
Signed by: Amber M. Haubrick

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action, mailed June 23, 2003, in the above-identified application.

This Amendment is believed to be timely submitted. It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.